

1414 West Hamilton Avenue P.O. Box 8 Eau Claire, Wi 54702-0008

October 3, 2003

Mr. Robert Schroeder, Chair Minnesota Environmental Quality Board 658 Cedar Street, Room 300 St. Paul, MN 55155

RE:

Xcel Energy's Application to the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board for an new 161 kV Transmission Line from the Lakefield Junction Substation to the Fox Lake Substation 03-64-TR-XCEL

Dear Mr. Schroeder:

Northern States Power Company, now doing business as Xcel Energy, hereby notifies the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) of its intent to submit an application for the Lakefield Junction to Fox Lake 161 kV transmission line project following the procedures in parts 4400.2000 to 4400.2750 as authorized by Minnesota Rule 4400.2000. This letter is provided to comply with the requirements of Rule 4400.2000, Subp.2.

We have enclosed two copies of the draft application for EQB Staff to review. Please note that there are still some areas that are incomplete and will be finalized prior to filing the application. For example, Xcel Energy is still gathering data relating to the existing Alliant Energy 161 kV line corridor. We will work with Staff to address any comments they have in order to complete the application within the next few weeks.

If you should have any questions please contact me at 715-839-4661.

Sincerely,

Pamela Jo Rasmussen Permitting Analyst

Enclosure

c: Larry Hartman